

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-29 are pending in this Application.

Claims 1, 11, 23 are currently amended. Applicants submit that support for the claim amendments can be found throughout the specification and the drawings.

Claims 1-29 remain pending in the Application after entry of this Amendment. No new matter has been entered.

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6-14, 16-19, 21-25, and 27-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,327,628 to Anuff et al. (hereinafter "Anuff"). Claims 5, 15 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anuff. Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anuff, in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,538,673 to Maslov (hereinafter "Maslov").

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S. C. § 102(b)

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections to claims 1-4, 6-14, 16-19, 21-25, and 27-29 and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) based on Anuff.

Applicants respectfully note that to anticipate a pending claim, a prior art reference must provide, either expressly or inherently, each and every limitation of the pending claim. (M.P.E.P. § 2131).

The Office Action alleges that Anuff teaches or suggests all of the claim limitations of claims 1-4, 6-14, 16-19, 21-25, and 27-29. However, based on the arguments presented below, Applicants respectfully submit that Anuff fails to teach or suggest at least one of the claim limitation recited in each of claims 1-4, 6-14, 16-19, 21-25, and 27-29.

Claim 1

Amended claim 1 recites a method for generating a page. The method recited in claim 1 comprises:

receiving access information declaratively specified by a user during an interactive session, the access information associated with a data source;

receiving layout information declaratively specified by the user during the interactive session, the layout information indicative of a visualization of data in the data source;
determining a data source specification based on the access information;
determining a layout specification based on the layout information;
generating a portlet configured to display data specified by the data source specification according to the visualization indicated by the layout specification;
retrieving data for the data source based on the data source specification and the access information;
determining a layout for the data based on the layout specification; and
generating the page based on the portlet using the data and the determined layout.

Applicants respectfully submit that Anuff fails to teach or suggest each and every one of the claim limitation recited in claim 1. For example, Applicants respectfully submit that Anuff fails to teach or suggest generating a portlet as recited in claim 1 configured to display data specified by a data source specification according to a visualization indicated by a layout specification.

As discussed in the Application, a page designer is typically a non-technical person who does not know how to write software code that will generate the web page. Rather, the page designer has to rely on a page developer to write the software code to generate the page. The page designer has to design the page and communicate with the page developer, who then develops the page and write the software code to generate the page according to the page designer's preferences. Development thus becomes a bottleneck for the page designer. (Application: Paragraph [0004]).

The page developer may attempt to pre-build pages for the portal in order to alleviate the bottleneck. The pre-built pages allow a page designer to lay out the data on the page without writing software code. However, the pre-built pages are created to display a certain subset of data. If the page designer wants to publish data other than the supported data for the pre-built pages, then a page developer has to create another page. Accordingly, the pre-built pages are not flexible on which data may be displayed in the page. (Application: Paragraph [0005]).

Applicants respectfully submit that the portal server of Anuff suffers from some of the above described problems. Anuff is directed to a portal server that presents an HTML page. (Anuff: Abstract). The HTML page comprises a plurality of modules that are formatted in a predetermined layout. Each module represents a network resource that can be accessed by a user through the portal. Anuff discloses that the modules are created by a site administrator or third parties and made available to end users. (Anuff: Col.8, lines 22-25). In Anuff, some aspects of the layout may be user-controllable, while others are fixed, however, users in Anuff, subject to limitation, may personalize the layout of the portal. (Anuff: Col. 4, lines 6-15). In other words, the users may determine which modules appear in what order. Additionally, users may edit the content of the module, for example, from “news” to “sports.”

However, end users in Anuff do not write the modules that create the HTML pages. Applicants respectfully submit that merely determining the order of modules as in Anuff, or switching content of a module as in Anuff does not teach or suggest generating a portlet as recited in claim 1 configured to display data specified by a data source specification according to a visualization indicated by a layout specification.

Applicants further respectfully submit that Anuff fails to teach or suggest generating a portlet as recited in claim 1 configured to display data specified by a data source specification according to a visualization indicated by a layout specification by the administrator or third parties that do create the modules in Anuff. Amended claim 1 recites that access information is received declaratively specified by a user during an interactive session. Amended claim 1 further recites receiving layout information declaratively specified by the user during the interactive session, the layout information indicative of a visualization of data in the data source.

Anuff merely discloses general steps used by the administrator to create pages, and publish them to users in Col. 8, lines 25-50. Anuff does not teach or suggest that the modules in Anuff are generating to display data specified by a data source specification determined from access information received during an interactive session as recited in claim 1. Anuff further does not teach or suggest that the visualization of the data as recited in claim 1 is also specified by a user during an interactive session.

Anuff is merely directed to the display and administration of the modules, rather than the generation of a portlet as recited in claim 1 based on information received during interactive sessions. Also, merely allowing users to arrange the layout of a page of modules, does not teach or suggest that the users may declaratively specify the visualization of data from a data source as recited in claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over the cited references.

Claims 2-29

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 11 and 23 are allowable for at least a similar rationale as discussed above for the allowability of claim 1, and others. Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 2-10, 12-22, and 24-29 that depend directly and/or indirectly from the independent claims 1, 11, and 23 respectively, are also allowable for at least a similar rationale as discussed above for the allowability of the independent claims. Applicants further respectfully submit that the dependent claims recite additional features that make the dependent claims allowable for additional reasons.

In light of the above, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections to claims 5, 15 and 26 and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Anuff. Applicants further respectfully traverse the rejections to claim 20 and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Anuff in view of Maslov.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

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